

Fourteen

Hib. 7. 659. 16

QUERIES

Offered to the Consideration of all the
Faithful Adherents to the

PARLIAMENT,

And

Publick Interests :

VWho are not corrupted into the present

DESIGN

FOR

OLIGARCHY.

L O N D O N,

Printed in the Year, 1659.



Foreign

QUEEN

Offered to the Consideration of all the
Respectful Adherents to the

PARLIAMENT

And

Public Justice

Who are not corrupted into the present

DESIGN

07-1343

H O R

OLIGARCHY

Fourteen

QUERIES

Offered to the Consideration of all the
faithful Adherents to the Parliament,
and Publick Interest, &c.

*Taking the great Cause so long contended for,
to be the pulling down of Kingly Power, to
make way for the securing of both Civil and
Spiritual Liberty, the question follows.*

I.

WHether the Parliament, who never swerved
from their principles of rooting out all foot-
steps of Monarchy (the irreconcilable enemy
to liberty of conscience) with a full intent to settle an equal
Commonwealth, under which kinde of Government the
persecution of conscience is incompatible. Or whether
those, who with the notorious breach of faith and engage-
ments have once already essayed to set up Monarchy, under
which Government liberty of conscience is inconsistent,

Fortteen

QUEERIES

Offered to the Consideration of all the
Familar Adherents to the

PARLIAMENT

And

Publick Intereſts :

And are not corrupted into the preſent

DESIGN

1743-1343

FOR

OLIGARCHY

TO VOTERS

in the Year 1743

Fourteen

QUERIES

Offered to the Consideration of all the
faithful Adherents to the Parliament,
and Publick Interest &c.

*Taking the great Cause so long contended for,
to be the pulling down of Kingly Power, to
make way for the securing of both Civil and
Spiritual Liberty, the question follows.*

WHETHER the Parliament, who never swerved
from their principles of rooting out all foot-
steps of Monarchy (the irreconcilable enemy
to liberty of conscience) with a full intent to settle an equal
Commonwealth, under which kinde of Government the
persecution of conscience is incompatible. Or whether
those, who with the notorious breach of faith and engage-
ments have once already essayed to set up Monarchy, under
which Government liberty of conscience is inconsistent,

and cannot be preserved, are the fittest persons, in reference to liberty of conscience, as least likely to betray it, to be intrusted with the settling of the Government.

II.

Whether the late Interruption of Government, under pretence of securing liberty of conscience, when there had been the greatest tenderness of it that is imaginable, and not the least approach made to the infringement of it, be not hypocritical, fraudulent and deceitful, on purpose to colour the design in some, for a Single Person, and of others for an Oligarchy, or Triumvirate.

III.

Whether an Army, who makes themselves a distinct Corporation, or a Commonwealth within a Commonwealth, are likely to settle an equal Government upon the single interest of publick and common good: Or whether in the framing of the Government, they are not rather likely to set up their own particular interest above and superior to the publick and common Interest; as that which will be as natural to them to do, as it always hath been to Monarches; and as it is to all mankind, to prefer themselves before all others.

IV.

Whether Souldiers, whose genious's are of a different nature to that of Government, and whose breedings have
not

not ben at all in Polliticks, nor out of their own Countrey; and who, according to ancient Maximes, are good servants, but bad masters, good defenders of Laws in some cases, the worst makers and executioners of them in the world, (witnes the late Reign of our *Bashawes*) are fitting persons to frame a new Government, especially those that joyn with them being no other to them then Jurymen.

V.

Whether if any Government be settled upon the foundations of a double interest, we do not thereby utterly lose all that we have fought for, our engagements having been all along against the interest of Monarchy, to the end, to reduce all to the single interest of publick and common good.

VI.

Whether it is to be believed, that those persons intends to set up a free State upon the single interest of the publick, who takes into their counsels the greatest enemies to it, as such, who out of love to Monarchy deserted the Parliament at the death of the King, and were as violent maintainers of the late Usurper in all his Tyrannies: Or whether they are not likely to set up another single person, or an Oligarchy, and whether grapes of thorns, and figs of thistles are to be expected.

VII.

Whether *Cromwells* crooked and by wayes are not exactly followed in designing the bringing these Nations into confusion,

fusion, that thereby they may be necessitated, according to the healing question, to put the Sovereignty into one or a few hands.

VIII.

Whether these Nations can expect any happy, settled peace, or quiet, until all powers are kept to their distinct offices, without double capacities, and acting onely within their own shire, being all subject to the supream civill power; and whether, if the Souldiers aim at good and righteous things, they will not in their Model of Government lay down some such foundation, as the self-denying vote not to be violated, to keep every one in a single, equal, and unbiassed capacity; and when they have done so, subject themselves to it, recommending all to the Parliament for their Sanction, who can onely derive it lawfully to future ages.

IX.

Whether the chief Author of the present Interruption, did not, in *Richards* convention, argue strongly against the being of the other House of Parliament, from the Military Officers that was in it; saying, that so long as they were there, Parliaments might vote what they pleased, but the other would do nothing but what they pleased. And whether doth not the same argument lye against himself, and the rest of the Officers of the Armies, their being in any Civil power, so long as they will remain Souldiers.

X. Whe-

X.

Whether the interruption of the Parliament who onely can lawfully derive any new form of Government unto posterity, doth not render all settlement by other powers unlawful, and usurped, and therein takes away all tyres of Conscience, and the obedience of such powers, and exposeth them to be justly overturned, by the first Root, or Rabble that can get the Sword.

XI.

Whether the supposed Author to the healing question his former deaying to pwn *Cromwell*, and his Adherents, because usurpers doth not teach all others, to do the same towards himself, and those he is joyned with. And whether his present engagement doth not argue, that his former opposition proceeded from his being contented of that share of Government he should have had, and not from any sound, and right principles. And whether the little Secretary, who in *Richards* convention, told him of his sneaking Oligarchy, did not therein speak his knowledge, and is not able to prove the same.

XII.

Whether the whole party of honest men, who have throughout been constant to the great Good Cause, are not in number small, compared to their enemies, and whether this last interruption hath not by dividing them weakened their heads and strengthened the hands of their implacable enemies to the great hazard of them and their causes.

XIII. Whe-

XIII.

Whether the private Interest of three or four persons ought to be put in ballance with the publick and common Interest, and whether former services be a sufficient ground for the Army to maintain them now upon in their disservices, and unjust designs, by such a horrid Rebellion and breach of Faith, as if not repented of God will surely punish.

XIV.

Whether that since the Army of themselves cannot maintain the Government, and that by the late *Mord* Rape upon the Parliament they have lost most of their friends, there is any way left to preserve themselves, the good Old Cause, and the Adherents to it, but by once more calling together the Members of Parliament to the discharge of their duties. God having alwayes owned them in their actions, and sufficiently expressed his manifest displeasure against these Nations, when with the breath of Faith they have been interrupted. And whether the Army hath not cause to cast that person out from amongst them, and abominate him, who at their meeting, whilst the Parliament was sitting, and some time before the interruption, stirred them up to this detestable Rebellion, by telling them, that all power was devolved upon them, and therefore wished them to take the government upon themselves, especially he being one that is known to be no lover of Liberties, but a great favourite of *Harry Cromwell* when he was in Ireland, and a Votary to his Tyranical Government.

F I N I S.



